

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 25 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) at noon.

PRAYER

Dr. Bryant R. Ali, New Psalmist Worship Center, Newark, New Jersey, offered the following prayer:

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in Earth. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins; as we also forgive everyone that has sinned against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

Lord, as these elected officials handle the agenda before them today, may the words of their mouth and the meditation of their heart be acceptable in Your sight.

Lord, Your word declares that those who acknowledge You, paths will also be directed by You. I pray that we truly become one nation under God, united with liberty and justice for all.

Lord, touch each Representative today. Bless their family and the community they have the privilege of serving. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit I pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr.

PAPPAS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. PAPPAS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Miss Kaitlyn Roberts, one of his secretaries.

WELCOMING DR. BRYANT R. ALI

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to introduce and praise today as guest chaplain Pastor Bryant Ali.

Pastor Ali has been my friend for almost 50 years. He has been the "pastor in the hood," as we call him, for 26 years at the New Psalmist Worship Center in Newark, New Jersey, a center he founded to bring the power of the Lord to those who have lost their way.

He is a renowned author, community activist, counselor, teacher, and preacher in my district. His story is one that should inspire us all. Pastor Ali received his spiritual calling as a homeless man struggling with chemical addiction. He conquered those demons through the power of the Lord. He started preaching and pursued his calling.

Today, he has a doctoral degree in holistic theology. He serves as the president of the Baptist Ministers Conference of Newark and Vicinity, and he is a spiritual counselor for the Newark Anti-Violence Coalition and serves on the board of the Newark Community Health Centers.

He is an outstanding clergyman, an incredible leader in my community, and a true inspiration. I am very proud to have him say a prayer for us today.

My fellow Members, I would like to present the senior pastor of New Psalmist Worship Center, the Honorable Dr. Bryant Ali, who did an incredible job for us today.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

ADDRESSING AMERICA'S INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, the American Society of Civil

Engineers estimates that, by 2025, the cost of addressing America's infrastructure needs will reach \$4.6 trillion. With Federal transportation funded at \$305 billion this year, we aren't even coming close.

With each day that passes, the need grows. Safety is threatened; opportunity is lost; and the cost of getting the job done only increases.

According to the Federal highway data, in the Buffalo Niagara region alone, 1 out of every 13 bridges is structurally deficient. Our roads are crumbling; our water infrastructure is breaking; and our transit systems are inadequate and outdated. The situation couldn't be more urgent, and the opportunity couldn't be more obvious.

Numerous economic reports indicate investment in infrastructure delivers real jobs and real growth in the American economy. It is time to deliver on the substantial investment in infrastructure. There is a great deal of work to be done, and there are Americans prepared to do that work.

HONORING SUCCESS OF SORINEX

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, every August, I participate in a bus tour of South Carolina's Second District with my wife, Roxanne, and dedicated staff from the Washington and district offices, visiting schools, job-creating businesses, and chambers of commerce.

An amazing stop this year was at Sorinex in Lexington. Sorinex is a family-owned business that makes unique exercise equipment for professional teams, national Olympic teams, colleges, high schools, and the military. It is a classic example of a garage-originated business that now produces equipment worldwide.

The founder of Sorinex, Richard "Pops" Sorin, took us around the impressive facility. The beginning of the visit was a tour with a historic collection of over 100 years of weightlifting equipment. Not only does Sorinex create its custom equipment, but it also produces all of its own branded apparel. I am grateful Lexington is the home of their success.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

Our sympathy to the family of Emily Clyburn and our prayers for Congressman JIM CLYBURN and daughters Mignon, Jennifer, and Angela.

HONORING GLADYS BARKER GRAUER

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor my dear friend, Ms. Gladys Barker Grauer, the "Mother of New-ark Arts" for more than 70 years, after